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guards, some thinking that the evil
days had drawn nigh, some that their day
of deliverance had come.

This is a strange story, but it was given
in good faith to The News reporter and is
vouched for by all the men on Col. Peo-
ples' plantation.

A Windmill Demolishes It.

Aurora, Wise Co., Tex., April 17.—(To
The News.)—About 6 o'clock this morning
the early risers of Aurora were astonished
at the sudden appearance of the airship
which has been sailing through the coun-
try.

It was traveling due north, and much
nearer the earth than ever before. Evi-
dently some of the machinery was out of
order, for it was making a speed of only
ten or twelve miles an hour and gradually
settling toward the earth. It sailed direct-
ly over the public square, and when it
reached the north part of town collided
with the tower of Judge Proctor's wind-
mill and went to pieces with a terrific ex-
plosion, scattering debris over several acres
of ground, wrecking the windmill and water
tank and destroying the judge's flower gar-
den.

The pilot of the ship is supposed to have
been the only one on board, and while his
remains are badly disfigured, enough of the
original has been picked up to show that
he was not an inhabitant of this world.

Mr. T. J. Weems, the United States sig-
nal service officer at this place and an au-
thority on astronomy, gives it as his opin-
ion that he was a native of the planet Mars.

Papers found on his person—evidently the
record of his travels—are written in some
unknown hieroglyphics, and can not be de-
ciphered.

The ship was too badly wrecked to form
any conclusion as to its construction or
motive power. It was built of an unknown
metal, resembling somewhat a mixture of
aluminum and silver, and it must have
weighed several tons.

The town is full of people to-day who are
viewing the wreck and gathering speci-
mens of the strange metal from the debris.
The pilot's funeral will take place at noon
to-morrow.

S. E. HAYDON.

Skeptics and Believers.

Ennis, Ellis Co., Tex., April 18.—The ex-
citement incident to the published reports
of the wonderful airship is growing more
and more intense and various opinions are
being expressed. One man was heard to
say to-day that the whole matter is an
advertising scheme. Dr. E. Stuart, an ac-
knowledge authority in metaphysics, gives
it as his opinion that the whole affair is
due to hypnotism and bad whisky, and J.
M. Chapman thinks it is purely sensation-
al fiction. But the people are not all skept-

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